INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT FOR THE TREATY ON CONVENTIONAL ARMED FORCES IN EUROPE RES-OLUTION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, August 1, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, as Chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, otherwise known as the Helsinki Commission, I rise to introduce a resolution which expresses the concern of this body regarding the Russian Federation's suspension of implementation of the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty (CFE).

Russia's declared suspension of the CFE on last July 14 is troubling to the countries that are parties to the treaty because it may lead to instability in the security situation in Europe.

NATO and the former Warsaw Pact countries ratified the CFE in 1990, under the auspices of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, predecessor of the current Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). The CFE has played a major role in European security in the post-Cold War era. The treaty set broad limits on key categories of conventional military equipment in Europe and mandated the destruction of excess weaponry. Under its provisions, over 60,000 pieces of combat material have been destroyed or removed from the arsenals of signatory states, under a rigorous, but mutually acceptable, transparency regime. In sum, it established parity, transparency, and stability among the conventional military forces and equipment in Europe.

The CFE was amended in 1999 to account for the dissolution of the former Soviet Union and the reality that several Warsaw Pact countries had become NATO members. However, NATO members have not yet ratified the amended treaty because Russia has failed to fulfill related commitments to withdraw its troops and weaponry from the territories of Moldova and Georgia, where they I are stationed against the wishes of those governments.

Among other reasons, Russia justified its suspension of the CFE on the basis that the U.S. plans to construct missile defence facilities in Eastern Europe, NATO member states refuse to ratify the 1999 CFE "Adaptation Agreement," and what Moscow sees as further encroachment by NATO toward Russia's border.

Madam Speaker, this resolution is not intended to discount Russia's concerns in the area of national security. However, Russia's actions over the past few months, combined with this latest on the CFE, prompts the question: How much of Russia's decision to suspend the CFE was based on genuine security concerns, and how much of the decision was designed to project President Putin and his United Party as "tough on the West" in the face of upcoming parliamentary and presidential elections?

We believe that Russia's proposed "moratorium" on CFE compliance is a regrettable step that may needlessly increase tensions in Europe.

I am introducing this "sense of the House" resolution urging the Government of the Russian Federation to reconsider its intention to

suspend CFE implementation and to engage in dialogue with the other CFE signatory states to resolve outstanding problems and establish a foundation for the eventual implementation of the above-mentioned Adaptation Agreement to the CFE Treaty of 1999. In other words, we urge Russia to reconsider its decision and behave more responsibly.

I urge my colleagues to support this timely resolution as a demonstration of this body's concern for European security.

TRIBUTE TO KATHY CADO

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2007

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I rise to note, with great sadness, the passing of Kathy Cado, a Seattle activist of great compassion and uncompromising integrity. Kathy was a remarkable woman who lent her considerable organizing and fundraising skills to educational projects, environmental efforts, health care initiatives, community programs, and women's issues. She loved progressive politics, and brought to it verve uniquely hers.

Kathy was that rarest of activists—a person of strong views who nonetheless could establish rapport with almost anyone. She brought humor and kindness to all of her endeavors, and she strove always to better her community. She was creative and witty, energizing countless campaigns and ballot efforts. Kathy was a mentor, and an inspiration, to so many; she leaves a legacy of public engagement matched by few others.

Kathy was a kidney transplant patient who struggled for many years with the consequences of renal disease. Yet, she refused to allow her illness to diminish her activism or her commitment to others. Instead, she embraced a new arena of involvement, learning as much as she could about this challenging field of medicine, and working tirelessly to support more kidney disease research and patient service. And, perhaps most significantly, she was resolute that the excellent treatment she received must be available to all who need it, regardless of resources or circumstances.

Kathy Cado was a very special human being who enriched the lives of everyone fortunate enough to know her. She was, in the very best sense, a public citizen.

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS. DON-ALD AND ROSEMARY RAHABY UPON THEIR 50TH WEDDING AN-NIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2007

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor, acknowledge, and congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Donald and Rosemary Rahaby upon their 50th wedding anniversary.

As beloved area leaders, both Donald and Rosemary have dedicated their lives to serving our community. During his distinguished

career in the United States Army, Donald met Rosemary while stationed in the Detroit area. Soon after, they were engaged and later married at the Shrine of the Little Flower in Royal Oak, Michigan, on July 6, 1957. After leaving the military, Donald served as the executive vice-president of Masco Corporation before ascending to president of Flint & Walling, Incorporated, which are both Michigan-based manufacturing businesses. Today, Donald is the president of American Dryer, Incorporated, another manufacturing company based in Livonia, Michigan.

Throughout their marriage, Rosemary has been a devoted wife and homemaker. She serves as parishioner in Our Lady of Victory Church in Northville and graciously volunteers her time at Providence Hospital in Southfield, Michigan. Together, Donald and Rosemary are the loving parents of four children, David, Susan, Linda, and Daniel, and of 12 grand-children, Danielle, Ashley, Paul, Patrick, Alexander, Michael, Brian, Emily, Meghan, Kaitlyn, Matthew, and Jennifer.

Madam Speaker, through their service, guidance, and generosity, Donald and Rosemary have played an important role in their family and community. They have led their children into successful marriages and careers, and helped them become well-respected members of their communities. Today, as we recognize their 50th wedding anniversary, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Mr. and Mrs. Donald and Rosemary Rahaby's eternal dedication to each other and selfless service to our community and our country.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER JAMES HOWES

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2007

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has committed his life to public service. Officer James Howes of the Santa Cruz Police Department in Santa Cruz, California will retire on September 6, 2007, after more than 26 years of personal sacrifice for his community and his country.

Officer Howes was born in Monterey, California and has since spent most of his life in the Monterey Bay area. A graduate of Watsonville High School, he later went on to study at Cabrillo Community College and the University of Phoenix, where he earned a degree in Business Management.

As a young man, Jim enlisted in the United States Marine Corps to defend our homeland. Stationed in Camp Pendleton, California and Okinawa, Japan, he attained the rank of Sergeant while proudly serving our nation.

Throughout his 26-year career at the Santa Cruz Police Department, Officer Howes has protected the public as a Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, and as a DUI Enforcement Officer, where he helped keep dangerous drunk drivers off of our roads. For 8 years, Officer Howes has served as the Santa Cruz Police Department's Community Service Specialist. He has helped to empower his community and has coordinated the National Night Out, the Citizen's Police Academy, and Business and Neighborhood Watch Programs.

Serving as a member of law enforcement is never easy. Each time a police officer such as